

**Fairfax-Falls Church Local Human Rights Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

June 14, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.  
Pennino Building / Human Services Center  
12011 Government Center Parkway  
Room 836 A

***Committee Members in Attendance:*** Loretta Redelman (Chair), Judy Regner, Tracy Ormes, Betty Gardner, Wendy Keating

***Committee Members Excused:*** Thomas Williams

***Others in Attendance:*** George Winters (RIVA), John Vick (CRI), Sue Gross (Applied Behavior Concepts), Mike Webster (MVLE), Sierra Simmons (Chimes), Trellis Fortis (Chimes), Tim Simmons (HR Advocate), Lisa Blecker (LHRC Support)

The meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. Minutes from the May 2nd meeting were approved as written.

**I. Annual Summary**

George Winters presented a summary of the annual human rights activities for Resources for Independence of Virginia (RIVA). The advocate and committee requested a copy of an action plan around what the program put in place around the transportation issues to ensure the protection and safety of individuals. The committee also requested clarification on how the LAR was notified about possible courses of legal action regarding abuse and whether charges were pressed if known and if not, why.

**II. Executive Session to Review Client Issues**

A motion was made, seconded and voted on to move into Executive Session to review client issues at 1:30 p.m. and the Committee came out of Executive Session approximately 3:00 p.m. The LHRC reviewed annual plans for two individuals and five quarterly reports. There were also updates for 5 individuals. Recommendations included adding the restraint to the cover sheet on one plan and adding personal search to the cover sheet on another plan. Recommendations on the quarterlies involved follow-up on why behaviors increased in April for four people and why behaviors increased in May for another person. Other questions were why there appears to be a difference in implementing a restraint outside vs. in the home, whether the person was supervised outside, what is the person's relationship with his housemate, a description of the person's self-injurious behaviors, and a request to demonstrate how the restraint is done at the July meeting. A motion was made and approved to send a letter to Licensure and a cover letter to the program where the LHRC recommendation to not allow any unsupervised time for one individual at home is still being considered due to concern for public safety. The LHRC also made a motion and approved sending a letter to the program recommending that the program obtain an independent

opinion from an agency other than the one used originally regarding the potential risk of one individual to the community. The LHRC will forward some options for the program to consider. Wendy agreed to compose the letters for the LHRC's review.

### **III. Election of Officers**

The committee voted on and approved its officers for the next year. Loretta Redelman will remain Chair, Judy Regner as Vice Chair and Betty Gardner as Secretary.

### **IV. Committee Business Session**

The LHRC discussed their concerns for the safety and protection of individuals who use outside transportation providers. Loretta agreed to draft a letter to affiliates asking for their policies and procedures on how they ensure the safety of individuals who use private transportation providers.

Loretta shared with the committee the comments from Reverend Yoltan from the letter he sent dated May 24, 2006. A copy of the letter will go out to the LHRC. She also shared the information from the CSB regarding the notice of public comment regarding fee changes. Two applications for potential LHRC members were received but there would be a conflict of interest for one of the applicants.

The committee discussed setting up more visits to the various programs. RIVA, Crisis Care, and PRS were identified as options for future visits.

### **V. Advocate's Report**

Tim updated the LHRC on the status of programs where recommendations to their policies and procedures were made. Tim announced that Deb Lochart is the new Regional Human Rights Advocate, but he will continue to be the advocate for this LHRC.

The September seminar for human rights has been postponed till April or May. The State wants to try to coordinate the seminar close to when the new regulations will be approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for: **Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>**, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 836 A of the Pennino Building, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax County Government Center Complex.